

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT(S): James G. Nadeau et al.

SERIAL NO.: to be assigned

GROUP:

FILING DATE: June 28, 2001

EXAMINER:

FOR: PROBES AND METHODS FOR DETECTION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the  
present application as follows.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231	
ON:	<u>JUNE 28, 2001</u> (DATE OF DEPOSIT)
BY:	<u>URSULA M POLIGNONE</u> (NAME)
<u>Ursula M Polignone</u> (SIGNATURE)	<u>6/28/01</u> (DATE)

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

After the Title of the Invention, please add the following statement: "This is a division of  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/590,061, filed June 8, 2000."

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-19, and 36-59.

Respectfully submitted,



David W. Highet  
Registration No. 30,265

Becton Dickinson and Company  
1 Becton Drive  
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417  
(201) 847-5317

#43795